IDW

3

COVER A

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

BAD GUYS

FLYNN • LAWRENCE • HAMMERSTROM • CURRY • ITO

GO SEGA

SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG BAD GUYS

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Special thanks to Mai Kiyotaki, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, Sonic Team, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

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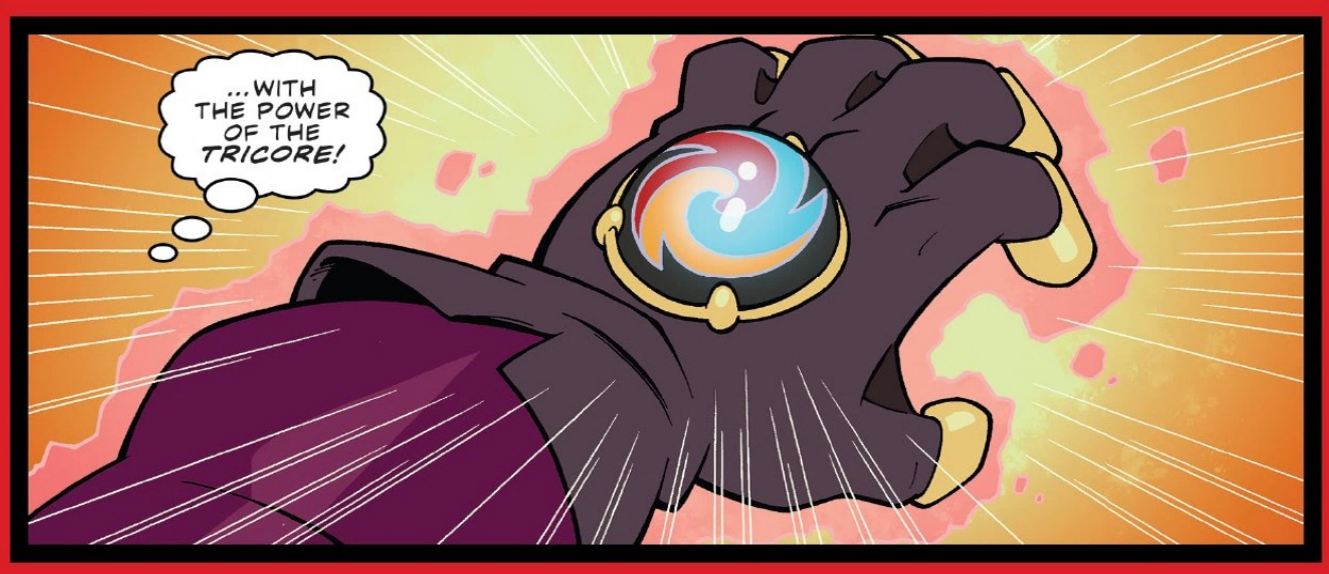
STORY SO FAR

HE WILL NEVER TAKE YOU BACK.
THAT'S... FINE. WE'RE IN THIS FOR REVENGE, REMEMBER?
MORE IMPORTANTLY-- YOU DON'T NEED HIM.

NO, SOMETHING ELSE IS GOING ON. AND WHEN I FIND OUT WHO'S UP TO IT, THEY'RE GOING TO PAY DEARLY.

AND I'M ONE STEP CLOSER TO ACHIEVING THAT DREAM NOW THAT I HAVE THIS!
A MEANS TO ENSURE I NEVER HAVE TO RELY ON ANYONE AGAIN!


...WITH THE POWER OF THE TRICORE!

DR. STARLINE
Threat Level: 7/10
Disgraced Dr. Eggman protégé.

ZAVOK
Threat Level: 10/10
Plan to take over the world ruined, in part, by Eggman.

MIMIC
Threat Level: 8/10
Failed mercenary on the run.

ROUGH
Threat Level: 3/10
Occasional Eggman lackey, just along for the ride.

TUMBLE
Threat Level: 3/10
Occasional Eggman lackey, in it for the weapons.

ENTER PASSWORD
****

PASSWORD ACCEPTED.
SECONDARY VOICEPRINT REQUIRED_

"A BEACON IN A SEA OF IGNORANCE."

WELCOME, DR. STARLINE_

REDUCE VOLUME. REPLAY LAST DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL.

PROGRESS LOG UPDATE. THINGS ARE MOVING ALONG *SWIMMINGLY*.

THE RABBLE I'VE RALLIED TO MY CAUSE HAVE PERFORMED BEYOND EXPECTATION.

I NOW HAVE A SURPLUS OF POWER CORES TO AID IN FINALIZING MY LONG-TERM PLANS.

IT'S ALSO ENABLED ME TO FABRICATE MY NEWEST CREATION, THE *TRICORE*.

THIS BRILLIANT BAUBLE WILL ALLOW ME TO HOLD MY OWN AGAINST SONIC, TAILS, OR KNUCKLES, SHOULD THE NEED ARISE.

AND UNLIKE THE SINGLE-USE CORE GEAR I'VE CRAFTED FOR MY "TEAMMATES," THE TRICORE CAN BE USED IN RAPID SUCCESSION HUNDREDS OF TIMES.

PHASE TWO OF THE PLAN HAPPENS TOMORROW. WE'LL BE INVADING AN EGGNET HUB.

THERE I WILL ERASE EGG BASE SIGMA FROM DR. EGGMAN'S DATABASES AND CHANGE ALL SECURITY TO OBEY ME.

ONCE THE BASE IS SAFELY LOST TO THE DOCTOR AND UNDER MY CONTROL, I CAN *FINALLY* MOVE ON TO MY TRUE GOAL.

THE PARAMETERS OF THAT MAY... *SHIFT*.

ZAVOK, FOR ALL HIS FAULTS, SAID SOME THINGS THAT STUCK WITH ME...

...BUT *HE* WILL NOT. NONE OF THE RUBES WILL. ONCE THE NEW HEADQUARTERS IS SECURED, MY NEW ROBOT FORCES WILL ELIMINATE THEM ALL.

NO WITNESSES. NO LOOSE ENDS.

I FEEL A TAD WASTEFUL, BUT THE ALTERNATIVE IS TOO RISKY. THEY'RE FAR TOO DANGEROUS TO LET ROAM FREE.

INDEED.

YOU MOVE SURPRISINGLY QUIETLY FOR A BIG GUY.

WHEN I WANT TO. YOU'RE QUITE STEALTHY YOURSELF...

...MIMIC.

KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN, *EH?* I DON'T WANT TO WAKE THE REAL DEAL.

I *NEVER* TRUSTED HIM, BUT I TRY NOT TO MAKE A MOVE WITHOUT GOOD INTEL.

I SUSPECT YOU CAME IN LOOKING FOR EVIDENCE, TOO?

NO, I'VE CONFIRMED HIS LIES FOR MYSELF.*

I CAME TO FIND OUT IF THE DEVICES HE PROMISED WERE BOOBY-TRAPPED.

*LAST ISSUE!

CHECKING.

NO, THEY'RE LEGIT.

REALLY? HE'S AS SHORT-SIGHTED AS EGGMAN.

SAYS HERE IT'S TO MAKE SURE THERE'RE NO MISFIRES. HE WANTS US TO BE AT OUR BEST UNTIL HE DISPOSES OF US.

JOKE'S ON YOU, DOC. YOU'RE THE ONE THAT ISN'T WAKING UP TOMORROW.

NO.

OUTSIDE. *NOW.*

I'M NOT WAITING FOR HIM TO PULL THE TRIGGER! I'M ENDING THIS *TONIGHT!*

WE STILL NEED HIM TO ACCESS THE EGGNET.

HE WON'T MAKE HIS MOVE UNTIL HE FEELS HE'S GOTTEN ALL HE WANTS.

TOMORROW, HE WILL OPEN THE WAY TO WHAT *WE* WANT. *THEN* I WILL REWARD YOUR PATIENCE BY LETTING YOU FINISH HIM.

FINE. BUT IF IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S MOVING UP HIS TIMETABLE, I'M NOT WAITING ANY LONGER.

FAIR ENOUGH. NOW GET SOME REST.

"IT ALL ENDS IN THE MORNING."

NO-NO-NO! THAT DON'T RHYME WITH "MIMIC"!

WHAT ABOUT "GIMMICK"?

EH... MAYBE? LET'S TRY IT OUT.

OKAY *AHEM* YOU BETTER NOT WHINE!

YOU BETTER NOT GRUMBLE!

IT'S 'BOUT TO GET TOUGH!

WE'VE GOT A NEW GIMMICK!

GET READY FOR HAVOC!

IT'S STARLINE, TUMBLE, ROUGH, MIMIC, AND ZAVOK!

Y'ALL ARE A BUNCHA INGRATES! THAT WAS INSPIRED!

IT *IS* A SIGN OF GROWING KINSHIP. CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER, DOCTOR.

WE STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO TO VICTORY. DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING PREMATURE?

YOU BROUGHT US ALL TOGETHER. YOUR PLAN IS UNFOLDING PERFECTLY.

EGGMAN CERTAINLY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ORCHESTRATE SUCH AN OPERATION.

I AM GLAD TO COMMAND YOU, MY FAITHFUL SERVANT.

WELL... HIGH PRAISE INDEED. THANK YOU, MASTER.

HE'S FULLY FALLEN FOR MY RUSE. *GOOD.* IT WILL MAKE AMBUSHING HIM EASIER.

SOON. THE EGGNET HUB.

AS PROMISED--YOUR PERSONALIZED CORE GEAR.

OH. I WAS EXPECTIN' SOMETHING MORE... TAIL-LIKE.

WEAR IT WITH PRIDE ALL THE SAME. NEXT TIME, I'LL UPGRADE IT INTO A TAIL FOR YOU.

HOW DO THEY WORK?

THEY READ YOUR BIO-SIGNATURES AND REACT SEAMLESSLY TO YOUR ACTIONS. ACT AS YOU NORMALLY WOULD, AND THE POWER CORE ENERGY WILL BE DISTRIBUTED INSTANTLY.

INDULGE IN YOUR POWER FANTASIES, GENTLEMEN. YOU CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING TODAY!

HEY! HOW COME YOU AIN'T GOT ONE?

I HAVE NO SKILLS TO ENHANCE. IT WOULD JUST BE A WASTE OF RESOURCES.

PFFFT! HAHA! YOUR WORDS, NOT MINE!

FIRST THING'S FIRST. MIMIC--WE TAKE DOWN THE GUARD TOWERS.

'KAY.

CRACK

BWOOSH

DOOR'S CLEAR! GIMME LAUNCH SPEED, BRO!

WHAM

HRRGH

CRASH

WHA-HA-HA! IS THIS HOW SONIC LIVES?! NO WONDER HE'S SO COCKY!

BWOOSH

POW
POW
POW

FWOOSH

KNOCK-KNOCK!

NONONONO! THERE'S SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT IN THERE!

LEAVE THE PRECISION WORK TO THE PROFESSIONALS, KID.

THIS IS IT. MERE STEPS FROM TOTAL VICTORY.

AW, C'MON! I AIN'T SMASHED ANYTHING YET!

THEN THE INTERIOR GUARD IS ALL YOURS. JUST DON'T BREAK ANYTHING, PLEASE.

?

SHUNK

ZOT

SMASH

YOU DIDN'T WANNA CONTROL THAT ONE?

NOT NEARLY AS SATISFYING AS OBLITERATING IT.

HAW! YOU'RE ALRIGHT, Z.

HERE! THE CENTRAL COMPUTER!

YOU KNOW THE LOGIN?

NO, BUT I'VE DEVELOPED A COMMAND ALGORITHM TO BYPASS THE SECURITY.

JUST HAD THAT LYING AROUND, EH?

NO, I'VE BEEN DEVELOPING THIS FOR... ANOTHER PROJECT. IT'S NOT IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW.

WELL, WORK FAST. AFTER OUR RAID, I'M SURE EGGMAN'S ON HIGH ALERT.

OH, HE WAS ALERTED THE MINUTE YOU AND ZAVOK TOOK OUT THE GUARD POSTS. HE'S MOBILIZING NOW.

WHAT?

CALM YOURSELF. WE CONTROL HIS INFORMATION FEED NOW, REMEMBER? I'M TELLING HIM IT'S SONIC AND GIVING THE COORDINATES FOR A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FACILITY.

EGGMAN'S HQ.

OH-HO-HO-HO! SOMEBODY IS ABOUT TO LEARN A LESSON IN HUMILITY.

BECAUSE THEY'RE ABOUT TO SUFFER A *HUMILIATING* DEFEAT!

SCRAMBLE THE AERIAL FORCES! WE'RE GOING TO RAIN PUNISHMENT ON WHOEVER IS CAUSING A RUCKUS!

HOLD ON, BOSS! WE JUST GOT AN UPDATE!

I HAVE THE COORDINATES. CARPET-BOMBING WILL HANDLE THE REST!

AS... THOROUGH... AS THAT PLAN IS, THE UPDATE SAYS IT'S *NOT* AN ALERT FROM THE EGGNET HUB.

INTEL NOW SAYS SONIC IS RANSACKING A DEPOT TWENTY MILES TO THE NORTH.

GIVE ME THAT!

SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE. THAT'S TOO MUCH OF A MISTAKE TO BE A SIMPLE GLITCH...

PERHAPS TAILS SENT A DUMMY TRANSMISSION AND OUR NETWORK CORRECTED THE MISTAKE?

OR THE OTHER WAY AROUND AND HE'S TRYING TO THROW ME OFF THE TRAIL...

NO MATTER! I'LL CHECK OUT BOTH, RAIN FIRE, AND SIFT THROUGH THE ASHES LATER.

I'VE GOT YOU THIS TIME, SONIC! *OH-HO-HO-HO!*

HE'S LOGGED HIS FLIGHT PLAN. WE'RE IN THE CLEAR!

AND THE DEFENSES?

SUDDENLY OVERCOME WITH A DESIRE TO PROTECT US.

REGISTRY OF AUXILIARY BASES

EGG BASE PI
EGG BASE RHO
EGG BASE SIGMA
EGG BASE TAU
EGG BASE UPSILON

TIME TO PAY THE PIPER, DOC.

ALL IN GOOD TIME! I NEED TO DO ONE THING FIRST.

FINALLY!

I'M DONE BEING POLITE.

Z-ZAVOK, SIR? A LITTLE HELP?

WHOA-- WHAT?

I THOUGHT WE WERE WORKIN' TOGETHER?

WE WERE. THE DOCTOR WAS *USING* US.

MIMIC FOUND EVIDENCE THIS WAS ALL A PLOY SO HE COULD HIJACK A NEW BASE FOR HIMSELF. ONCE SECURED, HE WAS GOING TO DESTROY US ALL.

I *KNEW* WE COULDN'T TRUST YOU!

YEAH! WE WERE ONLY *PRETENDING* TO!

GO AHEAD. DENY IT. GIVE ME AN EXCUSE.

YOU NEED ME TO DELETE YOU FROM THE DATABASE!

THEN *DO IT.*

I-IT WOULD BE EASIER W-WITH SOME ROOM TO BREATHE...

YOU'LL MANAGE.

[ENTRY DELETED]

NOW ASSIGN COMMAND OF ALL THE BADNIKS IN RANGE OF THIS HUB TO ME.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST SLICE AS I CARVE OFF MORE OF HIS TERRITORY FOR MYSELF.

FINE! FINE! THEY'RE YOURS! YOU NOW HAVE A WHOLE ARMY TO FIGHT EGGMAN WITH!

I NEED TO EQUIP MY TRICORE AND...

YOU'RE A FREE MAN, MIMIC.

AT LAST.

AND YOU JUST CONQUERED A CHUNK OF THE EGGMAN EMPIRE IN FIVE MINUTES.

INDEED.

YOU HAVE THE CORE GEARS, AND A SURPLUS OF CORES BACK AT THE LAB.

I GUESS SO.

WE CAN DO A LOT OF DAMAGE WITH THOSE.

WHICH MEANS YOU'VE OUTLIVED YOUR USEFULNESS, DOCTOR.

NEXT TIME: THE FATE OF DOCTOR STARLINE!

NEXT MONTH

ART AARON HAMMERSTROM COLORS MATT HERMS

ART **DIANA SKELLY**

ART JACK LAWRENCE COLORS LEONARDO ITO

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

Starline's allies always turn on him! First the Deadly Six, then Eggman, now the Bad Guys. No wonder Eggman sticks to robots! Thanks for joining Ian Flynn, Jack Lawrence, Aaron Hammerstrom, Bracardi Curry, Leonardo Ito, and Shawn Lee for the third installment of Sonic the Hedgehog: Bad Guys! *Let's take a look at your letters!*

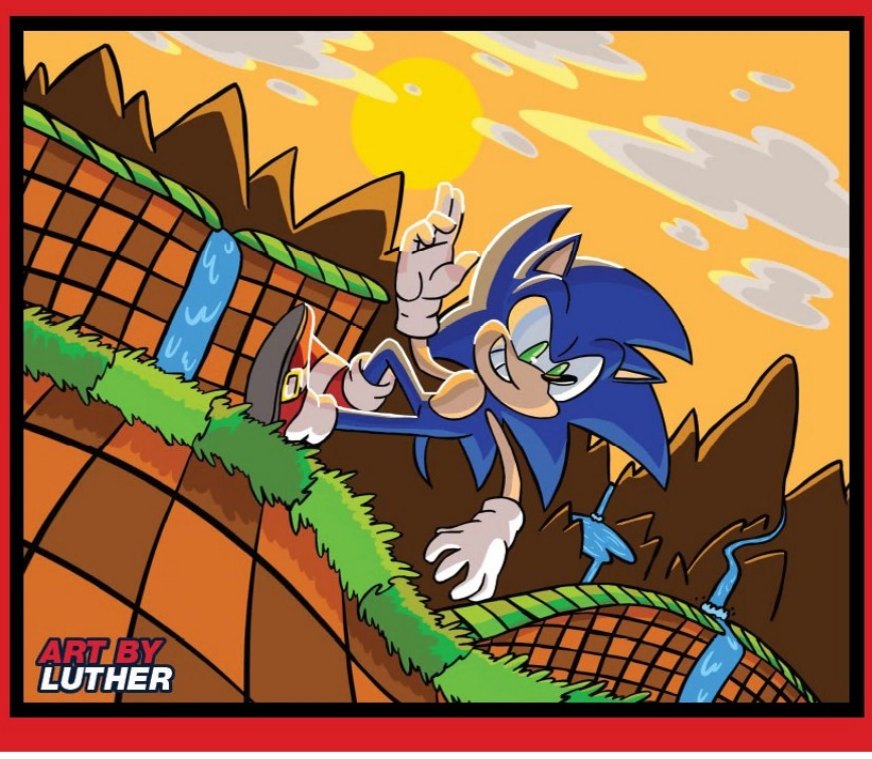
Hi, I've been a fan of Sonic for pretty much the entire 29 year run of the franchise, since I was a lad of 6 years old. For the past 10 years I've been making custom action figures of Sonic characters, mostly the ones from spin off media that aren't likely to ever get official toys. When I found out Dr. Starline was getting to star in his own "Bad Guys" spin-off special I had to celebrate by making a figure of him. I put a lot of love into this one (it used to be Jet the Hawk) and I even 3D printed his shoes and Warp Topaz glove based off a model my friend Korey made.

I'm actually making quite the little IDW toyline here, as I've also made figures of Mimic, Tangle, and Whisper. I'm certain I'll be making more of your great characters into toys in the future, keep up the good work!

Angel

Oh. My. GOSH. Your action figures are AMAZING. I'm really impressed with the accuracy and detail on such small figures! It's always so cool to see fans bring original IDW characters to life using their different skills. After being a fan for so long, it means a lot that you would dedicate so much time to new characters. Thanks for being a fan and for sending in your work!

P.S. Have you read Sonic *#34 yet!? There may be a new character for you to action figure-ize!*



Hi there,

I just wanted to show my Amy Rose cosplay that I handmade from scratch. I've been a Sonic fan a while and wanted to show that he's "not just for kids" haha!

I love the new character Whisper so a future cosplay for me.

Look forward to finding out the ending of the current series.

Rosa

Hi, Rosa!

Your cosplay is TOO CUTE! I do wonder if you resisted the urge to bop people on the head with the Piko Piko hammer… But I can't wait to see your Whisper cosplay. Maybe once the pandemic is over, you'll be able to stop by an IDW booth at a convention and show it off!

And absolutely, Sonic isn't just for kids! The IDW comic series has a mix of child and adult fans. Many adults grew up with Sonic and enjoy the nostalgia, while others are drawn to the characters later in life. The great thing about Sonic is that it can be silly and fun while also addressing real issues. Inadvertently, the recent Metal Virus saga addressed the importance of social distancing! Avoiding zombots was as important to Sonic and friends as wearing masks is to us!

Thanks for joining us, Squad. Don't forget to send your Bad Guys art and letters to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them:"OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Next month, the Bad Guys get their revenge!

20 YEARS OF IDW

ANNUAL 2019

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THE HEDGEHOG

FREE DIGITAL ASHCAN

TAKE A PEEK AT ANOTHER AWESOME COMIC YOU MAY LIKE...

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BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

WRITTEN BY IAN FLYNN ART BY JENNIFER HERNANDEZ

13

JET SET TORNADO

WRITTEN BY CALEB GOELLNER ART BY JACK LAWRENCE COLORS BY LEONARDO ITO

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VICTORY GARDEN

WRITTEN BY EVAN STANLEY & GIGI DUTREIX ART BY EVAN STANLEY

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CURSE OF THE PYRAMID

WRITTEN BY CAVAN SCOTT ART BY DIANA SKELLY COLORS BY PRISCILLA TRAMONTANO

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SONIC FAN CLUB

WRITTEN BY JAMES KOCHALKA ART BY JONATHAN GRAY COLORS BY REGGIE GRAHAM

LETTERING BY SHAWN LEE ASSISTANT EDITOR MEGAN BROWN EDITOR DAVID MARIOTTE

Special thanks to Anoulay Tsai, Mai Kiyotaki, Aaron Webber, Michael Cisneros, Sandra Jo, and everyone at Sega for their invaluable assistance.

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SPIRAL HILL VILLAGE.

WOO-HOO! YOU CAME! YOU REALLY CAME!

H'LO.

BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

IT FEELS LIKE *FOREVER* SINCE OUR LAST ADVENTURE!

IT'S *SO COOL* TO HAVE FRIENDS COME TO VISIT! AND WHEN THE TOWN *ISN'T* BEING BOMBARDED, EVEN!

WHOOPS! RIGHT. *BOUNDARIES.* MY BAD.

LEMME GIVE YOU A TOUR! THIS IS THE BAKERY! IT'S A *MUST* FOR EVERY BREAKFAST!

THE SALON! I BASICALLY KEEP THEM IN BUSINESS BUYING THEIR BRUSHES. I *TEAR* THROUGH THEM TRYING TO KEEP MY TAIL NEAT.

THERE'S A MILLION MORE STOPS, BUT I *CAN'T WAIT* TO SHOW YOU THE *MINERAL MUSEUM* RUN BY MY *BESTEST FRIEND!*

HEY JEWEL! I BROUGHT A GUEST!

JEWEL, THIS IS WHISPER. WE FOUGHT ROBOTS TOGETHER!
WHISPER, THIS IS JEWEL. SHE'S THE CURATOR!
CHARMED.
H'LO.
WE GREW UP TOGETHER!
ONLY BECAUSE I WAS LOOKING OUT FOR YOU. YOU'RE THE ANTITHESIS OF "LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP."
TRUE!
WE AMASSED QUITE A COLLECTION OVER THE YEARS. TANGLE, LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE, AND ME, MAKING SURE SHE CAME BACK ALIVE.
EVENTUALLY, I PUT TOGETHER THIS MUSEUM.
IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
AW, WHERE'D THE SUN GO? I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS SUPPOSED TO RAIN TODAY...
WHOA! WHAT ARE YOU—?
HEARD A SCREAM.

WHOOSH

WAVE! YOU TAKE THE TOP FLOOR! STORM! SMASH AND GRAB! I GOT THE GROUND FLOOR!

SURE THING, JET!

YOU GOT IT, BOSS!

HUH? OH, WOW!

WHAT IN THE WORLD—?

WAIT'LL THE BOSS SEES YOU!

JEWEL!

TOO EASY! BABYLON ROGUES— BACK TO THE BLIMP!

HA HA HA HA HA

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TO BE CONTINUED IN...

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